

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEIn re application of: Phadnis *et al.*

Appl. No.: 09/910,936

Art Unit: 2661

Filed: 07/24/2001

Examiner: Nguyen, Brian D

For: Forwarding Packets in a Gateway
Performing Network Address
Translation (NAT)

Attorney Docket No.: CSCO-006/2879

Declaration by Inventors Under 37 CFR 1.131Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Amit S. PHADNIS, declare as follows:

1. I, Praneet BACHHETI and Anuradha KARUPPIAH (hereafter "we"), are co-inventors of claims 1-27 pending in the above-identified patent application.

2. Some time prior to February 20 2001, while employed by Cisco Systems, Inc., we conceived of a system, method and apparatus for Forwarding Packets in a Gateway Performing Network Address Translation (NAT).

3. On a day prior to February 20 2001, we had created Exhibit A, which is a true and correct copy of a portion of document, prepared by us, entitled, "Forwarding Packets in a Gateway Performing Network Address Translation (NAT)". Exhibit A was referred to in a declaration I signed on Jul 8 2005 and believed to have been submitted with a response dated September 14, 2005.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

February 10, 2006
(Date)
Amit S. PHADNIS**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

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In re application of: Phadnis *et al.*

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Declaration Under 37 CFR 1.131

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Narendra R. Thappeta, declare as follows:

1. I am an attorney of record in the above-identified patent application and also prepared and filed the subject patent application.

2. On a day prior to February 20 2001, I received an order from Cisco Systems Inc., to prepare and file a patent application in relation to the subject matter of the instant patent application.

3. On a day prior to February 20 2001, I downloaded a copy of Exhibit A (submitted in a response dated September 14 2005) from Cisco's CPOL system.

4. Along with the instant patent application, I was also assigned another patent application ("Related Application") noted in the "Related Applications" section of the instant patent application. The Related Application had Our Reference number of CSCO-5 (or CSCO-005) and had a title of "Network Address Translation in a Gateway".

5. I found the subject matter of both the Related Application and the instant patent application to be in the same general area of network address translation (NAT) technology. Prior to these applications, I had not drafted patent applications in the area of NAT

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Declaration under 37 CFR § 1.131
In Response to Office Action Dated: 12/07/2005

technology and thus decided to draft the instant patent application after at least substantially completing drafting of the Related Application.

6. On or around March 14 2001, I met Mr. Amit Phadnis (named inventor on both the instant application and the Related Application) at Cisco India premises in Bangalore and conducted an invention disclosure meeting to receive technical details corresponding to the Related Application. Between February 20 2001 and March 14 2001, I reviewed various material, setup a meeting with Mr. Phadnis to visit him at his office and prepared for the meeting.

7. On March 31 2001, I sent a first draft of the Related Application as evidenced by Exhibit M, which is a cover letter sent with the first draft.

8. On April 4 2001, I met Mr. Amit Phadnis on at Cisco India premises to receive information related to the instance patent application in a invention disclosure meeting, as evidenced by Exhibit N, which is a redacted invoice #452 dated July 26 2001 submitted to Mr. Robert Barr of Cisco Technology to cover the service charges and disbursements for the instant patent application.

9. I moved my office and family, including various household, office items, wife and two children, from California/USA to Bangalore/India between January and July of 2001. I was also the only attorney in my organization with experience to draft the two patent applications in that duration. In view of the burdens of the move, I could not spend substantial amount of time for completing the preparation and filing of these two patent applications.

10. Between May 2 2005 and May 29 2005, I was in USA (outside of Bangalore office) as a part of the relocation effort, as evidenced by Exhibit O attached hereto. Exhibit O is a copy of the relevant pages of my then Indian passport depicting a date of departure from Bangalore on May 2 2005, arrival in San Francisco on the same date, and return to Bangalore on May 29 2005.

11. On June 4 2001, I met Mr. Amit Phadnis at Cisco India premises and received

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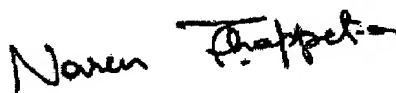
feedback with respect to the draft of the Related Application, as evidenced by Exhibit P, which is a copy of the cover letter accompanying a revised draft sent for the Related Application on June 6 2001. Before the meeting, Mr. Phadnis is believed to have reviewed the draft of the Related Application sent on March 31 2001.

12. On or around June 12 2001, I sent a first draft of the instant patent application to Mr. Phadnis for review, as evidenced by Exhibit Q, which is a cover letter sent with the first draft of the instant patent application. Between June 4 2001 and June 12 2001, I drafted at least a portion of the instant patent application.

13. On or around June 25 2001, I sent a revised draft of the instant patent application to Mr. Phadnis for review, as evidenced by Exhibit R, which is a cover letter sent with the revised draft.

13. Between June 25 2001 and July 24 2001, I received approval of the application content from Mr. Phadnis, sought approval from Mr. Jason Kipnis (a US Patent Attorney who had the responsibility of reviewing my applications prior to filing), secured signatures from the inventors, and filed the application with signed declaration and formal drawings, as evidenced by Exhibit N, explained above.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.



February 10, 2006
(Date)

Narendra R. Thappeta
Attorney for Applicants
Registration Number: 41,416